



# FALL 06



**Fresh new firefighters  
ready to take the heat!**

Also in this edition...

## **It's A Dog's World**

Learn how one of our fellow City workers is leading the pack when it comes to fox hounds

Page 4

## **New Faces**

See the new faces in the City of Greenville team and welcome Thom Moton and Chief William Anderson

Page 5

## **United Way**

Find out how City employees have been working together to help local charities

Page 15

# Manager's Message

Dear City Employees:

Last year the United Way of Pitt County recognized the City of Greenville with the 2005 Chairman's Award for an outstanding employee campaign. Based on this success, the United Way again this year invited the City of Greenville to participate in the Pacesetter Campaign. The campaign committee with representatives from all departments, began planning early this year and kicked off their efforts in April with a softball tournament. The pre-campaign activities continued with a citywide yard sale on July 15, 2006. Our pacesetter campaign officially kicked off in August. A second successful softball tournament was conducted at Boyd Lee Park on August 12.

The United Way was so impressed with the City's past chili cook-off's that this event was expanded and made the kickoff event for the entire countywide campaign. On September 7 the first United Way of Pitt County Chili & Rib Cook-off was conducted at the Convention Center. United Way staff wrote to me that this year's kickoff was one of the best attended ever and indicated that this success would not have been possible without the leadership and dedication of City of Greenville employees.

When the campaign ended in October, City employees had raised an all-time high of \$73,435.67. This amount far exceeded our goal of \$66,000 and represents an increase of \$10,000 over the 2005 campaign total.

Congratulations to Campaign Committee Co-chairs Cheryl Tafoya, Public Works, and Gloria Kesler, Community Development, on such an outstanding United Way Campaign. They both provided outstanding leadership. I also want to express my appreciation to the other members of the Committee: Terry Payne, Airport; Rhonda Wilkerson, City Attorney's Office; Andrew Schmidt, Convention and Visitors Bureau; Kimberly Branch, Financial Services; Wayne Harris and Steve Strickland, Fire-Rescue; Zina Hamm, Housing Authority; Bob Kasey, Human Resources; Wendy Smith, Information Technology; Lynn Branch, Library; William Anderson, Police; Robin Edwards, Victor Long, Kristine Martin and Jennifer Mills, Public Works; and Kelly Gallagher, Recreation and Parks.

Thank you to each City employee who donated to the 2006 United Way campaign. United Way of Pitt County partners with 20 nonprofit agencies to provide more than 30 programs that make a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Your generous contributions will benefit many citizens in our community.

Sincerely

**Wayne Bowers**  
City Manager

available  
online &  
in color!

## Editor's notes

It's been a busy year and I must apologize for the delay in getting the GEM out to you. It's one of those things that just fell through the cracks between personnel changes, moving across the street, and loads of new projects. I hope you will find it was worth the wait.

Special thanks to Steven Maguire, our new graphic artist, for his efforts in redesigning the GEM.

We can't get news about our employees out unless we first get news about our employees in. So, we need your help. If you know of something going on, something that's happened and/or something that's pretty exciting, exceptional or just plain interesting, please let me know. That also goes for getting things on our new tv show, **cityscene**. Just call me at x4131 or drop me an email at shawley@greenvillenc.gov. Thanks!

**Steve Hawley**  
Public Information Officer



# Greenville's First Fire-Rescue Academy Graduates 16

Fresh new firefighters ready to take the heat

## Cover Story



Pictured (L to R) Front Row: Jeremy Anderson, Adam Hughes, 2nd Row: Chris Holloman, Brantley Stallings, John Riley, Marcus Horne, Greg Gibson, 3rd Row: Bryant Beddard, Jason Smith, Patrick Frazzini, Rob Norris, April Lassiter, 4th Row: Laurence Converse, Derrick Ingram, Paul Isgar, Jim Lewis.

What was years in the making ended with an hour-long ceremony. The City and Pitt Community College teamed up to create the City's first Fire-Rescue academy. This spring, 16 students / Fire-Rescue applicants signed up for the academy. When all was said and done, all 16 graduated in an August ceremony.

The creation of an academy here in Greenville has been a long time coming. Previously, the City did some training here, but for certification, recruits would be sent to Wilson or Rocky Mount. With the training performed here in the city, firefighters are trained to meet our more specific needs. Battalion Chief Linwood Hines said, "We require EMT training, and that wasn't available in the Wilson or Rocky Mount programs. This way, we get our recruits trained by our people to suit our needs."

PCC coordinated the teaching, but most of those duties were handled by Greenville Fire-Rescue officers. This translated into getting more hands-on time with teaching the recruits the skills and knowledge gleaned through decades of experience in the City's Fire-Rescue Department. Specialists from outside the City were used for specialized areas such as NIMS, HAZMAT, and CPS certification.

Another valuable asset which allowed this in-house training was the opening of the training center at fire station #6. Training in our own facility was beneficial as our firefighters were able to keep up with the recruits more closely instead of just getting feedback if there was a problem.

Battalion Chief Sandy Harris and Deputy Chief Ron Moore (retired) were instrumental in the planning stages. Captain Chuck Owens ran the academy (from the City side) while maintaining his position as EMS coordinator and fire-training officer.

Chief Hines says prior to this, the City would train a few people at a time, but never at this level, and never with the cooperation and certification available through PCC. The City will do it again based on staffing needs (watch for this as plans to open Fire Stations 7 & 8 evolve).

## PITT PASS for City and GUC Employees

by Gerry Case

Pitt Community College is partnering with Greenville Utilities Commission and the City of Greenville to encourage employees to pursue higher education. This new program called "Pitt Pass" is designed to help employees re-enroll in school and make a smooth transition into college through admissions counseling, placement test preparation, PCC campus tours, and college courses for academic credit.

Pitt Pass began in January with an information session at GUC, where approximately 70 employees attended. A "Mini Program Fair" was also conducted to provide employees with information on specific courses, degrees, and certificates available at the college. PCC offers more than 60 programs of study including traditional face-to-face classes along with distance education/Internet courses and a weekend college program. To find out more about this exciting new program, contact Gerry Case in Human Resources at 329-4495.

# Honors & Awards

## American Legion Officer of the Year

The American Legion named **Detective Steve B. Pass (PD)** as their officer of the year for 2005. Steve began working at the Greenville Police Department in November 1977. He served as a patrol officer for the first five years of his career. In 1982, he was transferred from patrol to investigations to work in the Vice and Narcotics Unit. At that time, only two officers were



assigned to this unit. Since then, Steve has worked on fraud and forgery, burglary, commercial breaking and entering cases, and the Organized Crime/Drug Task Force with the Federal Government. In this position, he obtained special Federally sworn status. He was involved in investigating several high level drug-dealing organizations operating in Eastern North Carolina at that time. He received a special recognition award from the US Attorney General for his efforts.

In 1995, Steve was transferred to the Major Crimes Unit as a Homicide and Violent Crimes Detective. He says one of the most memorable cases he worked was the July 4, 1994 double homicide investigation that led to the federal indictments of 10 persons engaged in an organized crime operation. He was the most senior member of the Major Crimes Unit until his retirement this summer.

Steve is married and has two children. Steve's daughter, Amy, is a student at DH Conley. Steve's son Brad is a US Marine, currently stationed in Okinawa.

## Assistant City Attorney Retires...from the Air Force

Congratulations to Assistant City Attorney Bill Little on his retirement from the Air Force. Bill followed a family tradition of service when he joined the ROTC unit at ECU in 1969 and served our nation for more than 32 years.

Little served on active duty from 1973 to 1990 and in the Reserves since then. His most memorable times in the service include traveling to East Berlin, climbing the leaning tower of Pisa, and visiting the Normandy Cemetery.

## Newkirk is Fire-Rescue Person of the Year

The Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce named **Chris Newkirk (F/R)** as the 2004-2005 Fire-Rescue Person of the Year. The announcement came at the Chamber's annual banquet honoring the City's Fire and Rescue personnel.



Newkirk has been helping fight fires for 6½ years in the County, 3½ of those with the City. Chris is a firefighter and EMT-Paramedic who is a member of the Urban Search and Rescue Team, on the Board of Directors for the Pitt County Fireman's Association, and a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

Nominated by Lt. Charles Tripp, Chris was honored to receive the award, but humbled by those he works with. He said, "I don't really understand why I got this, but I'm glad I got it. I don't think I really did anything above or beyond what everyone else does."

Chris says he enjoys helping people and being there for them during their time of need. He credits his success to his daughter, Skyler, who he says is his inspiration – she is the root of his determination and commitment to what he does.

## City Department Wins National Award

The City of Greenville's Financial Services Department has won yet another national distinction. The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded the Department with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the **first** time in history. This award represents a significant achievement by Financial Services and reflects a commitment to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

In order to receive the award, the budget must meet certain criteria designed to assess how well the budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

Earlier this year, Financial Services won the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. That is an honor they have won for 16 years in a row.



## Another Above Par Performance



Many folks may just think of **Mike Cato (R&P)** as the head golf pro at Bradford Creek Golf Course, but there are plenty of others who think of him as "That guy at the top of the leaderboard."

Mike has won at least 10 tournaments in his professional career alone. His most recent one was a pro-am at Walnut Creek in Goldsboro. He shot a 67!

Not only did he win, but his group placed second in the tournament.

You can catch Mike doing his weekly golf tips on the City's new television program, **cityscene**.

## College Degree & National Certification For a City Employee

Congratulations to **Willie McLawhorn (PW)** for earning his Associate's degree from Pitt Community College in Electrical Electronics and Technology. Willie pursued this degree in order to help him with his current job of Signal Technician for the Public Works Department. He feels this degree will help him with the changing technology associated with signal lights.

On December 11th, Willie received his national certification as RiderCoach for motorcycling. This certification allows Willie to teach motorcycle instruction classes. Willie will begin teaching classes at Pitt Community College in the near future.

Willie also earned a certification for Heartsaving First Aid including Adult CPR & AED, Child CPR & AED, and Infant CPR. Willie decided to receive this safety training after he broke his foot a while back.

## City Hall Opens

City Hall opened with a bang (of the Mayor's gavel) on June 5, 2006. Several hundred people were on hand for the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony which was held in the atrium. Afterwards, citizens, elected officials past and present, and officials from the County and State were able to tour the new facility and partake in a few refreshments.

That evening, the Council held its first meeting in the state-of-the-art Council Chambers. Dozens of people stayed to watch the proceedings and see the presentations made by City Staff utilizing the new equipment.

The new building houses most of the City's administrative departments and was designed to foster the feeling of open government through the use of glass walls, the inviting Council Chambers, and the 3-story atrium with receptionist at the entrance.

Renovations are now underway at the Municipal Building. When that is finished, it will house the Community Development Department and the Inspections Division of Public Works.

## Carlton Dawson: Leader of the Dog Pack!

**Carlton Dawson (CD)** was unanimously nominated and selected to join others from across the U.S. and Canada as a judge for the 2006 United States Open Field Trial. At the 5-day event in January, he observed 260 of the nation's best fox hounds during field events and crowned a young hound from High Falls, NC, the 2006 USO Champion.



The next month, Carlton was invited to Stokes Elementary School for Black History Month where he discussed his job as a Code Enforcement Officer and his hobby of breeding purebred Walker Foxhounds. In August of 2004, he became the first African American to be elected president of the North Carolina Association of Housing Code Officials. Just a year later, he became the first African American to win a National Affiliated Walker Foxhound field trial and to be recognized by the I.F.S.B. as a Champion.

Not to be outdone, his wife, Kyle, was awarded Stokes Elementary School's 2006 Teacher of the Year!

## Acknowledgements

Congrats to **Assistant City Manager Thomas Moton, Jr. (CMO)** and **Chief William Anderson (PD)** for being accepted into the Institute of Government's 2006-2007 Municipal Administration Course.

**Judy Johnson (IT)** earned her certification as a GIS Professional (GISP) on February 26, 2006 from the GIS Certification Institute. Currently there are only 1,242 people with this certification! Way to go, Judy!

**Les Everett (PW)** was honored by the North Carolina Building Inspectors Association (NCBIA) by being re-elected to serve as the Area 5 director for the '06-'08 term. Area 5 consists of 32 eastern North Carolina counties and their jurisdictions. (Visit [www.ncbia.org](http://www.ncbia.org) for information)

Also in the Inspections Division, **Tim Fulford (PW)** successfully completed his Level III Standard Mechanical and Plumbing class. He is now qualified to take the state exam in the Mechanical and Plumbing fields of code enforcement.

**Sgt. Alvaro Elias (PD)** was honored with a plaque of appreciation by the Optimist Club of Greenville.

**Steve Hawley (CMO)** and **Ethelene Hardy-Stover (CVB)** recently graduated from the Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Institute. The 16-week class gave participants instruction on leadership and a broader understanding of the community and its needs.

**Rex Wilder, IT Director**, completed the UNC Chapel Hill School of Government Chief Information Officer (CIO) Certification Program in November. The CIO Certification Program is a ten-month course that lays the foundation for assessing and addressing some of the most critical issues facing IT leadership in local government.

**Kimberly Branch (FS)** was recently inducted into the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants as a new member. In order to gain entry, she had to pass her CPA exam (which she says was really hard) composed of 4 parts including financial reporting, auditing & attestation, regulation, and business environments & concepts, plus she had to have a Masters in Accounting and have 150 hours as an accountant.

**Captains Eric Griffin and Calvin Horne (both F-R)** attended an Enhanced Incident Command and Advance Unified Command course in College Station, Texas. Taught at the world-class Texas Engineering and Extension facility, they are a part of the Department of Defense weapons of mass destruction training consortium.

## New Hires:

### October 2005 – August 2006

Edwards, Jonathan	CMO	Communications Tech.
Maguire, Steven	CMO	Communications Tech.
Moton, Thomas	CMO	Assistant City Manager
Sicley, Colleen	CMO	Clerk Typist
Moore, Wendy	HR	Safety Specialist
Stokes, Robby	IT	Web Systems Analyst
Anderson, Jeremy	FR	FR Trainee
Beddard, James	FR	FR Trainee
Clark, Aaron	FR	Officer I
Converse, Laurence	FR	FR Trainee
Frazzini, Patrick	FR	FR Trainee
Gibson, Gregory	FR	FR Trainee
Gibson, Kristin	FR	Secretary I
Holloman, Christopher	FR	FR Trainee
Horne, Robert	FR	FR Trainee
Hughes, Adam	FR	FR Trainee
Ingram, Derrick	FR	FR Trainee
Isgar, Paul	FR	FR Trainee
Lassiter, April	FR	FR Trainee
Lewis, James	FR	FR Trainee
Norris, Robert	FR	FR Trainee
Riley, John	FR	FR Trainee
Smith, Jason	FR	FR Trainee
Stallings, Brantley	FR	FR Trainee
Waters, Bryant	FR	FR Officer I
Branch, Kimberly	Fin Svcs	Sr. Fin. Svcs. Manager
Greene, Tronette	Fin Svcs	Administrative Secretary

Harrell, Tami	Fin Svcs	Accounting Tech. II
Anderson, William	GPD	Chief
Armstrong, Michael	GPD	Officer Trainee
Avery, Kimberly	GPD	Telecommunicator
Becker, Grant	GPD	Police Officer
Hindes, Tracey	GPD	Officer Trainee
Lawing, Marcus	GPD	Officer Trainee
Lemon, Aaron	GPD	Animal Control Ofcr.
Oldenburg, Travis	GPD	Officer Trainee
Robinson, Eric	GPD	Police Officer
Roeder, Chad	GPD	Police Officer
Santamaria, Alejandro	GPD	Officer Trainee
Slaughter, William	GPD	Police Officer
Smith, Adam	GPD	Telecommunicator
Smith, Tory	R/P	Rec. Supervisor
Braddy, Amanda	PWD	Admin. Secretary
Carter, Eric	PWD	Laborer
Clark, Gordon	PWD	Custodian II
Clemons, Corey	PWD	Laborer
Coward, Gentry	PWD	Engineering Asst. II
Gardner, Kyle	PWD	Transp. Planner
Harrell, Donald	PWD	Building Inspector
Mayo, Tim	PWD	Mechanic II
Morning, Andre	PWD	Refuse Collector
Most, Michael	PWD	Laborer
Reid, Terrance	PWD	Laborer
Wiggins, Bershon	PWD	Laborer
House, Ernest	CD	GIS Technician I
Laughlin, Seth	CD	Planner II
Vaughn, Emily	CD	Code Enforcement
Wisemiller, Thomas	CD	Planner I



## Thomas Moton

Six months into his tenure as Assistant City Manager, Thomas Moton has really helped make his mark on the City's administration. Moton, who came to Greenville to fill the shoes of the retired Bill Richardson, started work for the City on March 13th. He immediately jumped into the City's new two-year budget plan, assisted with the City Employee Picnic, and helped coordinate the move into the new City Hall.



"My focus has been on discovering how each department operates, getting to know City Council members, staff, and

boards and commissions," says Moton, "as well as learning the City's operational policies, procedures and ordinances."

Life in a college town is nothing new to him. Moton came to Greenville after 3 ½ years as Assistant City Manager in University City, Missouri (home of Washington University). "There is an element of working in a university city that's very appealing. These towns tend to be progressive, and Greenville is like that and that is very appealing to me." Before his time in University City, he was Assistant Dean at Navarro College District and spent four years as Assistant City Manager of Corsicana, TX.

Moton said, "I think my management experience in Texas and Missouri have well prepared me. Also, the capable and experienced management team in place here in Greenville is providing me with a great deal of support." Moton oversees the Financial Services, Human Resources, Information Technology and Community Development Departments as well as the Public Information Division. "There are a lot of rewarding and challenging assignments in City Hall." Moton is also working with community groups on a variety of issues from substance abuse, domestic violence, and programs for at-risk youth to university relations, redevelopment, and bringing broadband wireless internet access to Uptown Greenville.

Thom grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and lived in Texas for many years. He loves the outdoors. In fact, that love helped him decide to settle here in Greenville. "I wanted to live close to the beach, but not too far from the mountains," he said. "Greenville's location fits that to a T."

On any given evening or weekend, you may see Thom and his wife Andrea working out at the gym, golfing, riding bikes, walking through the Uptown, or strolling through one of Greenville's many parks with their two dogs.

## Chief Anderson



William Anderson is now on board as the City's Police Chief. Chief Anderson came to Greenville from Elizabeth City, where he served as Chief from October 2003

to June 2006. Prior to his service in Elizabeth City, Mr. Anderson was Chief of Police in DeLand, Florida and also served 20 years with the Daytona Beach, Florida Police Department, retiring in 1999 as Police Commander.

Implementing more community policing strategies in Greenville is a major City Council objective. Some of the initiatives Chief Anderson successfully implemented in Elizabeth City include establishing community policing as the working philosophy of the Elizabeth City Police Department in 2004, creating a Police Athletic League Youth Football Program in 2005, starting the Department's first Citizens Police Academy in 2005 and then a Police A-Kid-Emy in 2006.

Chief Anderson has already made an impact on the City with a reorganization of the department and the implementation of the community policing initiatives such as a beat-oriented approach to solving late-night problems in the downtown.

Chief Anderson holds a bachelor of science in criminal justice from Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida. He is also a 1998 graduate of the FBI National Academy. He currently serves as a regional director of the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police.

## The IT Homefront



Wendy Smith (L) and Peggy McNair (R) pose with Latisha Harris (center) while Latisha is home during leave from her service time in Iraq. She returned from her deployment in August.

# New Faces

## Announcements

## Condolences

**Tony Smart (F-R)** on the passing of his father

**Tim Mayo (PW)** on the death of his brother

**Roger Davis (IT)** on the death of his brother

**Tyrone Artis (F-R)** on the loss of his sister

**Wayne Nicholson (IT)** on the passing of his father

The family of **Marvin Carmon (PW-retired)** who passed away on June 3

**Eric Smith (F-R)** on the death of his grandfather

**Steve Nichols (F-R)** on the passing of his father

**Steve (F-R) and Joey Strickland (F-R)** on the loss of their father

**Brantly Stallings (F-R)** on the death of his grandmother

**Carson Fisher (PW)** on the passing of his mother

**Stephen Warner (RP)** on the loss of his brother and grandmother

**Dale Mills (PD)** on the death of his father

**Lindy Spruill (PW)** on the passing of his mother

**Lambert Garris (PD)** on the death of his grandmother-in-law

**Don Gurkin (F-R)** on the loss of his grandmother

**Chris Holloman (F-R)** on the passing of his grandmother

**Mike Tucker (F-R)** on the death of his grandfather

**Adam Hughes (F-R)** on the loss of his grandfather

The family of **David Bullock (PD-retired)** on his August 25th passing

**Stu Stevens (CD)** on the passing of his mother

**Ken Jackson (PW)** on the loss of his mother

**Sherman Love (PW)** on the passing of his mother

**Alton Little (PW)** on the loss of his mother

**James Miller (PW)** on the passing of his mother

**Roy Spell (F-R-retired)** on the loss of his mother

**Jesse Harris (F-R)** on the death of his grandfather

**Dorothy Carney (PW-retired)** on the loss of her mother

**Sylvia Horne (CD)** on the Christmas Day passing of her nephew

**Mike Hobgood (F-R)** on the loss of his mother

**Janie Teele (CMO)** on the death of her uncle and two aunts

**Joe Nobles (PW)** on the passing of his mother

## Congratulations

**Richard Taylor (GPD)** and his wife Kimberly gave birth to Cameron Wesley Taylor on October 27th.

**Sergeant Ken Hadnott (GPD)** and his wife Joi became the proud parents of Olivia Hadnott on November 7th.

**W.J. (Joseph) Bonner (GPD)** and his wife Jennifer gave birth to Christopher Lee Bonner on November 9th.

**Mary Spencer (GPD)** became the proud grandmother of Braxton Lee White on November 30th.

**Mark Dentel (GPD)** and his wife Sarah gave birth to their first child, Lucas Andrews Dentel, on December 10th.

**Brandon Peebles (GPD)** and his wife Jennifer welcomed their son, Bailor Peebles, on December 15th.

**Chris and Billie Jo Viverette (GPD)** welcomed their son, Ethan Christopher, into the world on January 17th.

**Lee Wainright (GPD)** and Nicole Thompson became the proud parents of Logan Mckenzie on January 29th.

**Ann Tess (F-R)** on the birth of her granddaughter, Alison Grace.

**Chris Lancaster (F-R)** and his wife Tracy on the birth of their son, Bryson Lancaster, on March 1st.

**Fred Baxter (F-R)** and his wife Rhonda on the birth of their son, Luke James, born June 7th.

**Jason Purvis (F-R)** and his wife Dawn on the birth of their daughter, Jaiden Elizabeth, born February 14th.

**David (PD) and Karina Bowen (PD)** on the birth of their baby boy, Cullen Reed, on July 10th.

**Scott Salter (F-R)** and his wife Georgia on the birth of their baby girl, Makenzie Sloan, on July 22nd.

**Alejandro Santamaria (PD)** and his wife Amanda on the birth of their son, Tristan Alexander, born on July 31.

**Curtis Liverman (PD)** and his wife Kim on the birth of their baby boy, Gavin, who was born on August 15th.

**Jeremy Anderson (F-R)** and his wife Jennifer welcomed their baby boy, Brady Wayne Anderson, on August 28th.



# Retirements

**Braxton Cox (PW)** started his career with the City as a sanitation collector 20 years ago. During that time, he says he most enjoyed meeting a lot of people and especially getting the envelopes some people would leave at Christmas time. The last 5 years of his time with the City, he had been working in the Paint/Sign Division where he's painted just about every City vehicle in the fleet. Braxton and his wife Melissa don't plan on sitting around relaxing during retirement. They started Cox & Cox cleaning service. Good luck, Braxton!

**Carol Powers (RP)** retired with more than 30 years of service with the City. She was featured in the last GEM, so we won't go into much detail about her career. She has opened the shop *Beach Combers* on the Crystal Coast with her husband, and we wish her much success.

**Sarah Connor (PW)** put in more than 31 years with the City. Everyone she came in contact with recognized her hard work and dedication. Sarah was the Administrative Secretary for the Engineering Division. She's spending more time getting involved in the community.

**Robert Johnson (R&P)** retired after almost 29 years of service to the City. Robert was a Recreation Supervisor and the Center Director for the South Greenville Recreation Center. He always had a smile for everybody, and now his smile is extra-large...he's fishing "all over everywhere" and generally loving life (no word if his wife Pat is allowed on those trips)!

**William Richardson (CMO)** only spent a few years as Deputy City Manager, but his presence has been missed around City Hall. "Mr. Bill" retired from the City with just 4 years and 6 months of service here, but many more in public service across the state. Bill has big plans to walk the Appalachian Trail, make it big in Hollywood, and watch the clouds roll by with his wife, Sherry Jean, at their home in Currituck.

**Charles Sumerlin (PW)** retired from the Fleet Maintenance Division of Public Works after 17.7 years of hard work and dedication. It is especially hard for him to leave all of his friends at Public Works because, "we are like a big family. I am really going to miss these guys." Charles began working for the City as a mechanic after he retired from the Air Force. He traveled all over the world during his service, and he hopes to re-visit many of his old stomping grounds. Charles and his wife Sue have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys fishing and woodworking.

**Joseph Simonowich (PD)** retired with 35 years of service in our Police Department. Joe started his service back in 1971 and worked his way up through the ranks to become Chief. He helped the Department receive accreditation and become reaccredited twice. At last check, he was said to be knocking items off his wife Doris' honey-do list.

**Terry Grimes (PW)** worked hard for the City for almost 31 years before retiring.

**Ron Moore (F-R)** is no longer fighting fires for the City. After just over 29 years of service, he decided to trade in his fire protection gear for the gear of a fisherman. Word is he's also doing lots of projects around the house for his wife, Jane.

**Lonnie Johnson (PW)** retired after more than 29 years with the City.

**Steve Pass (PD)** retired after 30 years of solving crimes for the City. Actually, Steve started as a school crossing guard, then took a full-time position as a dispatcher, then was sworn in as an officer in 1977. Steve worked as a detective for many years, but now plans to spend more time with his son who is a U.S. Marine.

**Larry Suggs (F-R)** worked for more than 25 years for the City before retiring in August. Larry served others not only as a firefighter, but also as one of the driving forces of the Caring is Sharing Food Drive. Despite leaving the City, he plans on continuing his service with the Caring is Sharing Food Drive.

**Dorothy Carney (PW)** can't get enough of the City. Although she retired with 24 years and 9 months of service, you can still find her around the office. That's because she's now working part-time until they can find someone to fill her shoes. After that, she plans to go home and take care of her father, do some traveling, and just help others in the community as she can.

**Lonnie Brown (PW)** worked for the City for 25 years before retiring at the beginning of August.

**Other Retirees (through August)**

**Johnnie Dawson - Library (38 years, 4 months)**

**Mary Kraczon - Financial Services (5 years)**

# Announcements

## Promotions:

October 2005 – August 2006

Ackerman, Thomas	FR	EMS Specialist
Brown, Thomas	FR	EMS Specialist
Buffaloe, Jeffrey	GPD	Police Officer Trainee
Corley, Tim	PWD	Civil Engineer II
Crandol, Diertra	R/P	Recreation Supervisor
Crandol, Dominique	R/P	Laborer
Deans, Eric	FR	EMS Specialist
Edwards, Maurice	PWD	Equipment Operator IV/Sanitation
Harris, Denisha	Fin Services	Accounting Technician II
Harris, Sandy	F/R	Battalion Chief
Hopkins, Larry	Comm Dev	Code Enforcement Officer
Humbles, Ashley	FR	EMS Specialist
Jones, Niki	Comm Dev	Planner I
Jones, Sierra	PWD	Equipment Operator II/Bldgs & Grounds
Locklear, Brandon	FR	EMS Specialist
Manuel, Adelaido	PWD	Equipment Operator IV/Streets
Moore, David	FR	EMS Specialist
Newkirk, Christopher	FR	EMS Specialist
Nichols, Steven	FR	EMS Specialist
Nottingham, Wayne	PWD	Civil Engineer III
Octigan, James	R/P	Recreation Program Assistant
Pasko, Brian	FR	EMS Specialist
Roach, Linda	Fin Services	Accounting Supervisor
Roach, Terrence	PWD	Equipment Operator II/Streets
Salter, Brian	FR	EMS Specialist
Skinner, Justin	R/P	Equipment Operator II/Parks
Smith, Eric	FR	EMS Specialist
Smith, Tory	R/P	Recreation Supervisor
Sowers, Kevin	FR	EMS Specialist
West, Christopher	FR	EMS Specialist
Yarrell, Kelvin	R/P	Recreation Manager

## Did You Know?

The NC Retirement System provides us with a special benefit, called a death benefit, after one year of service in the System.

The IRS has determined that this death benefit is the same as a life insurance policy and is therefore taxable under the same IRS regulations as employer-provided life insurance.

Questions? Call the Human Resources Department at 329-4493.



## Service Anniversaries

**NOVEMBER 2005**

Madigan, Sharon	GPD	10
McLaughlin, Tim	GPD	10
Blount, Clennie	PWD	15
Davis, Marvin	CMO	15
O'Neal, Jeff	F/R	25

**DECEMBER 2005**

Savage, Charles	GPD	10
Flowers, Vada	PWD	10
McInerney, Tim	GPD	10
Edwards, Freddie	PWD	15
Sawyer, Leonard	F/R	30

**JANUARY 2006**

Kesler, Gloria	Comm. Dev.	5
Harris, Bobbie	GPD	5
Jones, Sierra	PWD	5
McNair, Peggy	IT	10
Leudesdorf, Bill	PWD	10
Robbins, Bruce	PWD	15
Cox, Wayne	PWD	15
Brown, Thomas	PWD	20
Coggins, Gary	F/R	30
Stanley, Kathy	Comm. Dev.	30

**FEBRUARY 2006**

Adams, Willie	HR	5
Roach, Patricia	PWD	5
Farrar, Charles	GPD	5
Mills, Danny	GPD	5
Williams, Richard	GPD	5
Cooper, Jeff	PWD	15

**MARCH 2006**

Vestal, Dennis	R/P	5
Whitehurst, Antoine	PWD	5
Friday, Joe	GPD	15
Gorham, Fred	GPD	15
Hines, Jimmy	GPD	15
Mims, Linda	Comm. Dev.	20

**APRIL 2006**

Taylor, Wesley	F/R	5
West, Steven	F/R	5
Bradley, Larry	PWD	10
Dixon, Michael	PWD	15
Harrington, Gary	PWD	15
Nobles, Faith	PWD	20
Little, Alton	PWD	35

**MAY 2006**

Jackson, Ken	PWD	5
Warner, Jerry	GPD	5
Wilson, Harold	PWD	10
Kay, John	F/R	15
McLean, Ronnie	F/R	15
Peaden, Charles	F/R	15
Dixon, Tony	PWD	30

**JUNE 2006**

Teel, Geraldine	PWD	10
Jackson, Rick	PWD	10
Rollins, Jerald	PWD	20
Edmundson, Sandy	Comm. Dev.	20
Lewis, Christine	GPD	20

**JULY 2006**

Smith, Mark	PWD	5
Foy, Dean	R/P	10
Moore, Ben	R/P	10
Leavy, Billy	PWD	10
Clark, Barbara	GPD	15
Walker, Sam	PWD	20
Allsbrook, Richard	GPD	20

**AUGUST 2006**

Davis, Joe	R/P	5
Baxter, Jeff	GPD	5
Etheridge, Augustus	GPD	5
McCoy, Michael	GPD	5
Peebles, Brandon	GPD	5
Pyles, Stephen	GPD	5
Terry, Wesley	GPD	10
Curry, Jon	GPD	15
Cannon, Barbara	GPD	20
Johnson, Wilma	GPD	20
Allen, Greg	F/R	20
Bakalar, Bob	F/R	20
Harris, Wayne	F/R	20
Worthington, Milton	F/R	20
Hudson, Betty	PWD	25
Hines, Herald	GPD	25
Grimsley, Johnny	PWD	25
Williams, Jackson	R/P	30

## Recognitions

**Division Heads:**

If you have someone in your group who will be celebrating a 20-year+ service anniversary or retirement, please call the Public Information Office at 329-4131. We'd like to come get pictures and information about City staff to give them the recognition they deserve.

**Also:**

If you need help getting the word out about a service you provide our citizens; creating a flier, brochure or poster; working with members of the media; advertising your meeting; or anything else with how you communicate, please call 329-4131 and let the staff of the Public Information Office be of assistance.

## New Ideas for Training Program

by Bob Kasey

Employees offered suggestions for updating and improving our in-house training program during the recent Training Program Needs Assessment completed by Wilson Mott & Associates consulting group. A lot of good ideas and comments came from the surveys as well as through one-on-one and focus group interviews.

In her report, Dr. Mott noted a number of positives in our existing training program. She was also very pleased with the number of employees who participated in the study, the strong interest in the training program, and the valuable comments and ideas offered. Dr. Mott relied heavily on these suggestions in coming up with her recommendations. Here are some of them:

1. Create a panel of employee experts from each department called "Subject Matter Experts" (SMEs). This panel could review existing workshops and actually become involved in developing and designing future workshops and training materials.
2. Look into placing some courses/workshops in self-programmed modules on the computer or the City's intranet. This idea is great for employee's self-directed learning and gives alternative schedules to those who can't go to a classroom in the usual 8AM-5PM schedules.
3. Get outside experts for training of some subjects or classes. This includes area community colleges and universities. Also, take advantage of the expertise and teaching talents of City, County, and GUC employees.
4. Develop a "pre-supervisory" curriculum that offers preparation for emerging supervisors and crew leaders.
5. Design a "Get to Know Your City" course for all employees with the focus on improving skills and preparedness for transition to different positions within the organization. This was a very popular suggestion.

Some other recommendations include a tracking system for each employee's training records; a 6-month or annual training calendar so everyone gets advance notice on class dates; a better way to evaluate the learning outcomes from a training class; and more opportunities to "cross-train" employees for transfers and promotions.

We are already working on recommendations to implement over the next few months. Others will take a bit more time (and money) to implement.

## Two City Employees Graduate From Municipal Administration Course

Safety/Risk Manager **Linda McCarthy (HR)** and **Chief Mike Burton (F-R)** graduated from the 2005-2006 Municipal Administration Course of the School of Government, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This program is designed for managers, department heads, and officials whose responsibilities require a broad understanding of functions beyond individual areas of specialization. Over 2,500 officials have completed this course since it began in 1954. The course is approximately 140 hours in length, and more than 40 instructors participate in leading the program. The courses consist of NC local government law, organization and management, finance and budgeting, personnel law and administration, planning and regulation of development, and the delivery of specific city or county services. Mike and Linda were among 72 officials who graduated this year.

## Remember

### Get Well Soon

**James Mayo (F-R retired)** and his wife Bonnie. They were recently in an accident and are home now recovering.

**Tony Smart (F-R)** who is back at work, but undergoing chemotherapy.

**Charles Williams (RP)** who is home recovering from surgery.

**Faye Brewington (CD)** who is also recovering from surgery.

## Christmas Spirit

Our employees were certainly not Grinches this past holiday season. We had two major drives to help others: the Caring is Sharing Food Drive and Operation Santa Claus.

The 15th annual Caring is Sharing Food Drive kicked off on November 7th and lasted through the 16th. With a theme of "Feeding our community one neighbor at a time," the City and GUC sponsored the drive and helped the Greenville Community Shelter, the Pitt County Council on Aging, the Salvation Army, Senior Home Health Services, the Joy Soup Kitchen, and New Directions.

Employees placed boxes to collect non-perishable foods at more than a dozen locations around the City. They also received donations of gift baskets and raffled those off to raise extra money. November 9th marked the GREAT Transit System's "Free Ride Day" where people could ride the City's buses by making a donation of two non-perishable foods. Three days later, Kids Fest was held on the Town Commons. This gave everyone a chance to come out for games, pony rides, face painting, and refreshments.

Thanks to everyone who contributed and a special thanks to the people on the organizing committee.

We appreciate your caring and sharing.

## Spring Clean-Up



(pictured l to r: Clayton Brock (PW), Gordon Clark (PW), and Betty Moseley (HR))

This year's Spring Clean-up was a total success. Dozens of City employees united with hundreds of citizens to help clean up our City. Three groups of City employees pitched in to clean up several areas of the city, especially around the downtown area. Many did so after work while others chose to do so over the weekend. This year's turnout was record breaking, with a total of 41 groups volunteering. Good job on all of your efforts to keep the "green" in Greenville!

## Tennis, everyone!



Game, Set, and Match for **Chris Hinson (RP)**. Chris served as the chairperson for the Downeast Community Tennis Association's committee that is bringing the 2007 USTA League NC Mixed Doubles State Championship to Greenville. This tournament, to be held September 14-16, brings between 800 - 1000 adult tennis players to a host city in NC each year. **Andrew Schmidt (CVB)** was also on this committee and assisted in preparing Greenville's bid for the tournament.

The tournament will be played at Recreation & Parks tennis courts, private tennis clubs, high school tennis courts, and at East Carolina's tennis courts.

Surveys done by communities hosting this event in recent years estimate that the total economic impact to the host community is between \$500,000 - \$800,000.

## D.A.R.E. Program



(pictured rear: l to r: Detective Charles Farrar & Detective James Carlton, Officer Gary Barrett, Officer Billy Hill, and front: Journe Council)

The D.A.R.E. Program has been a great success this year. The members of the Family Services Unit and the Traffic Motorcycle Unit have assisted in various types of presentations for the youth throughout the City.



# More Gems

## Hail to the Chief

City Manager Wayne Bowers gives Chief Joe Simonowich his official retirement award at the first City Council meeting in which he was not required to sit in the hard wooden chairs.

Joe retired back in the Spring after more than 35 years of service with the Greenville Police Department.



Gloria Kesler (CD) tries to take the top prize at the Chili Cook-Off while Robin Edwards (PW) and Tim Corley (PW) stand by just in case somebody eats too much of Tom Wisemiller's chili.

## Help Wanted

Once again, the City's United Way Campaign was a huge success. Cheryl Tafoya and Gloria Kesler did a great job as Co-Chairs...but...this was Cheryl's last year doing it. If you're interested in joining Gloria as Co-Chair for the 2007 campaign, please call her at 329-4226. The sooner someone steps up, the more time our committee will have to break this year's fundraising record.



# More Gems



**Pictured above:**

A bevy of beauties, who we'd prefer remained anonymous, compete for prizes and some strange sort of respect during the Chamber's annual Firefighters' appreciation dinner last fall at the Hilton ballroom.

**Pictured left:**

**Eric Raynor (F-R)** shows off equipment used by the Urban Search And Rescue team to a young citizen at the Open House for Fire Station #6.



## Graduations

Ryan Johnson, son of **Judy Johnson (IT)**, graduated from North Lenoir H.S. and is attending Lenoir C.C.

Alex Raynor, son of **Donna Raynor (CMO)**, graduated from South Central H.S. and is attending ECU.

Kristin Sugg, daughter of **Pat Sugg (CCO)**, graduated from Rose H.S. and is attending UNC Chapel Hill.

Mark Anthony Tafoya, son of **Cheryl Tafoya (PW)**, graduated from South Central H.S. and is attending NC State this fall ON A FULL SCHOLARSHIP! Mark plans to major in Computer Engineering.

## Info Gems

### Homeowner Assistance

Are you ready to buy a home but not ready to pay mortgage insurance because of little to no down payment? The City of Greenville is offering a new incentive program for employees interested in purchasing a home in the University area. If a City of Greenville employee meets the program guidelines, they may be eligible for down payment assistance through a no interest forgivable loan of \$7,500. Remember, this offer is good for homes within the University area. For more information, please contact the Housing Division at 329-4481.

## Involvement

## United Way 2006



### Ice Cream

The ice cream ladies returned to City Hall. Their cool treats raised some cold cash in the middle of our hot summer.

### Yard Sale

Thanks to everyone for their donations and for helping with the annual United Way yard sale. It was a huge success. A special thank you goes out to Tom Tysinger for allowing us to have a cool yard sale inside. We raised \$1110.

### Chili and Rib Cookoff

Pumping up the heat, the Chili & Rib Cookoff was even bigger and better this year, held on September 7th at the Convention Center.

Congrats to the following City winners:

<b>Chili:</b>	2nd Place	Gloria Kesler	(Comm. Dev.)
	Hottest Chili	Tom Wisemiller	(Public Works)
<b>Rib:</b>	1st Place	Willie Wilson	(Public Works)
	3rd Place	Steve Strickland	(Fire-Rescue)

## United Way Awards

City Manager Wayne Bowers and Cheryl Tafoya of Public Works received a Chairman's Award and a Pacesetter Award for the 2005 United Way Campaign. The Chairman's Award is given to those organizations that meet criteria for a model United Way Campaign. The Pacesetter Award is given to those organizations that agree to run an early campaign with aggressive goals and use "model campaign techniques." For 2005, the Pacesetter goal was \$1,090,800 and the total amount raised was \$1,109,414 (102% of the goal!). Thanks to all of the hard work and participation from City employees, United Way was able to exceed its goal for 2005.



**The 2006 campaign** was even better than the entire crew hoped for - beating their goal by more than \$8,000! The total for the 2006 efforts netted the United Way of Pitt County **\$73,435.67**

Thanks to your generosity, many agencies will be able to continue providing much-needed services in our community.

## Congrats!

## Wedding Bells

**Dallas Mayo (PW)** married Esther Hammond on November 4th.

**Christopher Traud (GPD)** married Tasha Singleton on December 24th.

**Braxton Patterson (R&P)** got engaged to Cara Ann Tortora on December 25th.

**Boyd Lee (R&P)** married Loretta Lewellyn on January 17th.

**James Octigan II (R&P)** married Crystal Brown on February 18th.

**Laura Lee Asby (F-R)** married Barry M. Peters on March 11th.

**Richard Layton (F-R)** married Kacie Thomas on June 3rd.

**Alan Roebuck (PD)** married April James on July 22nd.